

Extract from Minutes of Bedfordshire Schools Forum – 12 January 2006

PRACTICAL LEARNING OPTIONS AT 14-16

The Forum considered a report from Paula Tansley, Assistant Director, Learning Standards. It was reported that Bedfordshire had been allocated £333,000 for 2006/07 and an additional £585,000 earmarked Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2007/08 to increase practical learning opportunities for 14-16 year olds. The funding was not ring fenced and was intended to enable secondary schools to secure a broader range of practical and specialist provision at Key Stage 4.

It would help to ensure that schools were prepared for the roll out of specialist diplomas from 2008, as set out in the 14-19 White Paper and in the forthcoming 14-19 implementation Plan. It was intended to cover the additional costs of delivery including teaching, curriculum planning, resources and equipment and relevant fees.

The Forum considered three options as set out in DFeS guidance for the allocation of the funds and agreed option 3 as set out in the submitted report. They agreed that the funds be allocated to Bedfordshire's three 14-19 area groups for the reasons detailed in the submitted report.

RESOLVED:

- 1 That the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) be allocated to Bedfordshire's Three – 14-19 area groups to enable them to develop and fund provision across each area.
- 2 That approval to the proposal in 1 above be confirmed with the LSC and by the Upper School Headteachers at their meeting on 17 January 2006 but that, in the event of a difference of view, the matter be reported back to this Forum for further consideration.